

a Christian who had been arrested and reportedly maltreated because of his marriage to a Muslim woman. In October 1996, a court annulled the marriage and sentenced the man to 39 lashes and a year's imprisonment for immoral marital relations. The government replied that the trial had been conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Shariah and the law, and stated that "all persons are equal before the Shariah, the Constitution and the law" and there had been no discrimination on the ground of belief or nationality.

**Sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, Special Rapporteur on the:**  
(A/53/311, paras. 67–68)

The Special Rapporteur's (SR) interim report to the 1998 General Assembly notes concerns related to the risks to the lives of young boys, some as young as four years old, who are trafficked from countries in South Asia to supply the demand for camel jockeys. The children are attached to the camels' backs with cords and those who fall risk being trampled to death by the other camels on the track. If the children refuse to ride, they are beaten. The SR noted that in 1993 the Camel Jockey Association of the United Arab Emirates finally prohibited the use of children as jockeys but cited new evidence indicating that the rules are being ignored. In February 1998, 10 Bangladeshi boys, aged between five and eight years, were rescued in India while being smuggled to become camel jockeys. Also in 1998, airport officials rescued two boys who were being taken to Dubai from Sri Lanka by two men who were later charged with their kidnapping.

**Mechanisms and Reports of the Sub-Commission**

**Traditional practices affecting the health of women and girls, Special Rapporteur on:**  
(E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/11, para. 100)

The report states that secrecy continues to surround traditional practices, including female genital mutilation. A survey carried out, however, indicated that female excision is still practised and 30.8 per cent of girls aged between one and five years have undergone the procedure. The Special Rapporteur stated that the operation is carried out discreetly and, while it was formerly performed by a Daya, it is now performed by women doctors in hospitals and dispensaries.



## UZBEKISTAN

**Date of admission to UN:** 2 March 1992.

**TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS**

**Land and People:** Uzbekistan has not provided a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

**Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

Acceded: 28 September 1995.

Uzbekistan's initial report was due on 6 June 1997.

**Civil and Political Rights**

Acceded: 28 September 1995.

Uzbekistan's initial report was due on 27 December 1996.

**Optional Protocol:** Acceded: 28 September 1995.

**Racial Discrimination**

Acceded: 28 September 1995.

Uzbekistan's initial and second periodic reports were due 28 October 1996 and 1998 respectively; the second periodic report is due on 28 October 1998.

**Discrimination against Women**

Acceded: 19 July 1995.

Uzbekistan's initial report was due on 18 August 1996.

**Torture**

Acceded: 28 September 1995.

Uzbekistan's initial report was due on 27 October 1996.

**Rights of the Child**

Acceded: 29 June 1994.

Uzbekistan's initial report was due on 28 July 1996.

### THEMATIC REPORTS

**Mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights**

**Disappearances, Working Group on enforced or involuntary:** (E/CN.4/1998/43, paras. 391–393)

No new cases of disappearance were transmitted to the government. Two of the outstanding cases concerned an Islamic religious leader and his assistant who were reportedly detained in August 1995 by the National Security Service in Tashkent as they were waiting to board an international flight. The third case concerns the leader of the Islamic Renaissance Party, reportedly an unregistered political party, who was allegedly arrested in 1992 by men believed to be government agents. The government provided information to the Working Group on these cases, including the details of the investigations carried out by the authorities into the subjects' disappearance, and reporting that their search for the persons concerned was continuing, and the families were being kept informed of the findings.

**Religious intolerance, Special Rapporteur on:**

(E/CN.4/1998/6, paras. 48, 50, 58, 59, 63, 64, 66)

The report refers to violations of freedom of religion and belief against Christianity and Islam, and notes that non-Muslims are allegedly subjected to restrictions in religious matters, including through: refusal to grant official recognition to certain religious groups and communities; imposition of controls on, and/or illegal interference with, the religious activities of certain religious groups and communities; a prohibition on the local publication